

CHAPTER XXV

CHANGE OF NAME

ANYBODY can change his name at any time and renounce his old name. There is no compulsion to retain such a Christian name as "Judas" or such a surname as " Buggins." But it is dangerous to alter one's name too frequently or without some documentary evidence associating one with the old name. It would be so awkward if old Uncle Eze-kial Buggins, of Warra Warra, South Australia, should leave you all his fortune after you had assumed the name of Algernon De Vere Curzon. What proof would you have that you were really Judas Buggins?

It is because of this that a change of name is usually carried out by deed poll. The deed poll is merely a declaration to the world ("Know all men by these presents") that you have renounced your oldname and have assumed and intend henceforth to be known by the new name. You sign it in your new name: " A. de Vere Curzon heretofore J. Buggins/"

The signature to the deed poll should be witnessed preferably -by a solicitor. It should be stamped with a los. deed stamp, and left at the Central Office of the Supreme Court for "enrolment" (being an ancient term for the

entering of a
deed on the Court rolls or records).

When the deed is lodged for
enrolment, the
solicitor's clerk should prepare a form
of adver-
tisement for insertion in the *London*
Gazette, which
has also to be signed by the client in
both the new
and the old name.